

Amendments to the Claims: This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A device for implantation in a body lumen comprising:

a prosthetic component having a proximal end and a distal end and comprising a graft extending between said proximal end and said distal end and having a hem formed on said proximal end or said distal end, wherein said hem defines an interior space; and

a cord disposed within said interior space adapted for expanding upon absorbing fluid for aiding in fixating said prosthetic component against said body lumen.
2. (Original) The device of claim 1, wherein said prosthetic component further comprises a stent disposed radially inside of said graft.
3. (Previously Presented) The device of claim 1, wherein said hem is disposed at said distal end of said prosthetic component.
4. (Previously Presented) The device of claim 3, wherein said graft further comprises a second hem disposed at said proximal end of said prosthetic component and defining a second interior space and said device further comprises a second cord disposed within said second interior space.
5. (Original) The device of claim 3, wherein said cord is in a compressed state prior to being contacted with fluid.
6. (Original) The device of claim 5, wherein the thickness of said cord in the compressed state is less than thirty thousandths of an inch.
7. (Original) The device of claim 1, wherein said cord has a flat ribbon shape.
8. (Original) The device of claim 1, wherein said cord has a shape selected from the group consisting of annular, circular, semi-circular, D-shaped, rectangular, octagonal, trapezoidal, triangular, and square.

9. (Original) The device of claim 1 further comprising an outer coating formed over said cord, wherein said coating dissolves upon exposure to fluid for varying the rate at which said cord expands after deployment of said device.

10. (Original) The device of claim 1, wherein said hem has holes to adjust the porosity of said hem for allowing fluid to contact said cord.

11. (Original) The device of claim 1, wherein said hem is sufficiently ductile to conform to irregular shapes.

12. (Original) The device of claim 2, wherein said hem is positioned to allow said stent to protrude distally relative to said hem.

13. (Original) The device of claim 12, wherein at least one hoop of said stent is distal relative to said hem.

14. (Original) The device of claim 1, wherein said graft has a first permeability at areas remote from said hem and a second permeability, greater than said first permeability, at said hem.

15. (Original) The device of claim 1 further comprising an attachment tab having a first part attached to the graft and a second part extending radially outward of said first part for attachment to an adjacent area of the body surrounding the prosthetic component.

Claims 16-24 (Canceled)

25. (Previously Presented) A method for implanting a device in a body lumen comprising the steps of:

introducing a device into a body lumen, wherein said device comprises: a prosthetic component having a proximal end and a distal end and comprising a graft extending between said proximal end and said distal end and having a hem formed on said proximal end or said distal end, wherein said hem defines an interior space; and a cord disposed within said interior space for expanding upon absorbing fluid; and

contacting said cord with fluid to aid in fixating said prosthetic component against said body lumen.

26. (Original) The method of claim 25, wherein introducing said device comprises the following steps:

compressing the device into an introducer;

inserting the introducer into the body lumen;

positioning the introducer such that the compressed prosthetic component is at a predetermined location within the body lumen; and

withdrawing the introducer to expand the prosthetic component to its decompressed size at the predetermined location within the body lumen.

27. (Original) The method of claim 25, wherein contacting said cord with fluid comprises the following steps:

aligning the outside circumference of the hem within the inside diameter of the body lumen; and

removing an impediment to the flow of fluid within the body lumen to said cord.

Claims 28-34 (Canceled)

35. (Currently Amended) A device for implantation in a body lumen comprising:

a prosthetic component comprising a graft having a hem formed on said graft, wherein said hem defines an interior space, and a stent disposed radially inside said graft; and

a cord disposed within said interior space adapted for expanding upon absorbing fluid for aiding in fixating said prosthetic component against said body lumen.

36. (Currently Amended) A device for implantation in a body lumen comprising:

a prosthetic component having a proximal end and a distal end and comprising a graft having a first hem formed on said graft at said distal end, wherein said hem defines a first interior space, and a second hem formed on said graft at said proximal end, wherein said second hem defines a second interior space;

a first cord disposed within said first interior space adapted for expanding upon absorbing fluid for aiding in fixating said prosthetic component against said body lumen; and

a second cord adapted for expanding upon absorbing fluid for aiding in fixating said prosthetic component against said body lumen disposed within said second interior space.

37. (Currently Amended) A device for implantation in a body lumen comprising:

a prosthetic component having a distal end and comprising a graft having a hem formed on said graft at said distal end, wherein said hem defines an interior space; and

a cord, disposed within said interior space adapted for expanding upon absorbing fluid for aiding in fixating said prosthetic component against said body lumen, wherein said cord is in a compressed state having a thickness less than thirty thousandths of an inch prior to being contacted with fluid.

38. (Currently Amended) A device for implantation in a body lumen comprising:

a prosthetic component comprising a graft having a hem formed on said graft, wherein said hem defines an interior space and said hem is sufficiently ductile to conform to irregular shapes; and

a cord disposed within said interior space adapted for expanding upon absorbing fluid for aiding in fixating said prosthetic component against said body lumen.

39. (Previously Presented) The device of claim 35, wherein said hem is positioned to allow said stent to protrude distally relative to said hem.

40. (Previously Presented) The device of claim 39, wherein at least one hoop of said stent is distal relative to said hem.

41. (Currently Amended) A device for implantation in a body lumen comprising:

a prosthetic component comprising a graft having a hem formed on said graft, wherein said graft has a first permeability at areas remote from said hem and a second permeability, greater than said first permeability, at said hem, and wherein said hem defines an interior space; and

a cord disposed within said interior space adapted for expanding upon absorbing fluid for aiding in fixating said prosthetic component against said body lumen.

42. (Previously Presented) A method of implanting a device in a body lumen comprising the steps of:

compressing said device into an introducer wherein said device comprises: a prosthetic component comprising a graft having a hem formed on said graft, wherein said hem defines an interior space and a cord disposed within said interior space for expanding upon absorbing said fluid;

inserting said introducer into said body lumen;

positioning said introducer such that said compressed prosthetic component is at a predetermined location within said body lumen;

withdrawing said introducer to expand the prosthetic component to its decompressed size at said predetermined location within the body lumen; and

contacting said cord with fluid to aid in fixating said prosthetic component against said body lumen.

43. (Previously Presented) A method of implanting a device in a body lumen comprising the steps of:

introducing said device into said body lumen wherein said device comprises: a prosthetic component comprising a graft having a hem formed on said graft, wherein said hem defines an interior space; and a cord disposed within said interior space for expanding upon absorbing said fluid to aid in fixating said prosthetic component against said body lumen;

aligning an outside circumference of the hem within an inside diameter of said body lumen; and

removing an impediment to a flow of a fluid within said body lumen to said cord, to allow said fluid to contact said cord.

44. (New) The device of claim 1, wherein said cord consists of an absorbent material which absorbs fluid and expands as a result of the absorption of fluid.

45. (New) The method of claim 25, wherein said cord consists of an absorbent material which, upon the contacting step, absorbs fluid and expands as a result of the absorption of fluid.

46. (New) The device of claim 35, wherein said cord consists of an absorbent material which absorbs fluid and expands as a result of the absorption of fluid.

47. (New) The device of claim 36, wherein said first and second cord consist of an absorbent material which absorbs fluid and expands as a result of the absorption of fluid.

48. (New) The device of claim 37, wherein said cord consists of an absorbent material which absorbs fluid and expands as a result of the absorption of fluid.

49. (New) The device of claim 38, wherein said cord consists of an absorbent material which absorbs fluid and expands as a result of the absorption of fluid.

50. (New) The device of claim 41, wherein said cord consists of an absorbent material which absorbs fluid and expands as a result of the absorption of fluid.

51. (New) The method of claim 42, wherein said cord consists of an absorbent material which, upon the contacting step, absorbs fluid and expands as a result of the absorption of fluid.

52. (New) The method of claim 43, wherein said cord consists of an absorbent material which, upon said fluid contacting said cord, absorbs fluid and expands as a result of the absorption of fluid.